

Mailing One

Welcome to a new year of excitement from Parliament Lights as we transport you to a place you've only ever dreamed of. Nestled in warm seas and blessed by balmy weather, lies Pleasure Island. Some say it's the beauty of the island that encourages love, laughter and absolute relaxation. But others say there is magic in the air, and whoever breathes deep of it is filled with its irresistible power. See for yourself as every few months a new tale from Pleasure Island unfolds.

(story headline)

Second Honeymoon

(copy)

Was she crazy? Did she really think she could pull off something like this?

But she had. She had managed to keep their trip to Pleasure Island a complete surprise for her husband Rob. The moment Ellen had read about this idyllic isle, she knew it would be the perfect place to celebrate their wedding anniversary. And if the brochure was even half right, it was her best, and possibly last, chance to rekindle the fire in their marriage.

Standing on the hotel terrace admiring the magnificent view, she felt hope flare. But one glance at her husband's grimacing face crushed it. Even the glorious sunshine couldn't banish his blues. And for the millionth time, she wondered what happened to the man she had loved and married. They just didn't seem to talk anymore. Light, playful breezes pulled her from her deep contemplation, rippling her dress around her legs. She felt deliciously sun-kissed on this perfect island and hoped Rob would relax and finally start enjoying himself, too.

But that night, they sat in a pocket of silence within a lively, bright restaurant full of happy people. And later, the crickets had more to say than they did while they sipped a nightcap on the terrace.

No one could resist the charm of the island for long, as they discovered while visiting one of the most beautiful spots on the island. Standing on the edge of a pristine white wall, Rob gazed at the beautiful countryside before him. He had to admit, it was lovely. Placid azure water caressed the beach under a cornflower blue sky. Doves crooned softly to each other as an emerald lizard skittered across the sun-drenched wall and into the lush undergrowth. Life was so simple here. There were no deadlines, rush hours or hassles. Only peace and tranquility.

Suddenly, he felt as if the air itself was vibrating. The tension of the past few years was being drawn out of him and flung far up into the atmosphere. Replacing it was the feeling of complete and utter relaxation. Infused with this new sense of serenity, he watched Ellen stroll along the terrace. It was amazing, she almost looked like she was floating. A lovely vision in white he thought, smiling.

Ellen caught his smile. He looked 10 years younger. My, he was a handsome man, quite a catch, she mused. When they intercepted each other, both wore a smile. Hesitantly, almost shyly, they began to talk. It seemed like a small start, but the next day amid the splendor of ancient ruins, their small talk turned into deeper discussions.

There were a few tears, as old hurts were revisited, only to be replaced by laughter as they made new discoveries about each other. It's true, they weren't the same people who married so many years ago, but they still had a lot in common. Their mutual curiosity took them diving to the coral reef where fish darted, to Ellen's great delight. They discovered a shared passion for the island's spicy foods and picked up many cooking tips from local chefs. And at dusk, they strolled along the beach marveling at the incredible amethyst and topaz skies.

Under the influence of this magical place, they had fallen in love again. What's more, desire for each other had returned tenfold. They kissed with such intensity, it made the young newlyweds on the island promise to be that much in love at Rob and Ellen's age.

From their plane seats, they both waved fondly at the island that had refreshed, renewed, and revived their love. On what they often referred to as their second honeymoon, they had found what really mattered again... each other.

Issues

- like terror draining through feet
- age of Rob & Ellen v. visuals - pamphlet
- tougher transition to diary format of this storyline b/c one of the things I really like is the copy describing mental & physical metamorphosis he goes through from "just being here."

+ definitely more upbeat & positive

? do we want to maintain a consistent format (i.e. - travel log) or do we want to write?

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